Supply of Sulphuric Acid to Kerala by F.A.C.T

5680. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the F.A.C.T. has been supplying Sulphuric acid to small scale units in Kerala for a long time;

(b) whether this supply of Sulphuric acid has suddenly been stopped;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) FACT produces Sulphuric Acid for manufacture of Phosphoric Acid and fertilizers. In 1990-91, because of uncertainty of availability of imported Sulphur and Phosphoric Acid and the necessity to maximise indigenous production of fertilizers, the availability of Sulphuric Acid in FACT become critical. As captive production of Sulphuric Acid was not sufficient to meet the requirements, FACT itself had to purchase Sulphuric Acid from other sources. It was under these circumstances the FACT had to curtail sales to others.

(d) Presently, FACT is not in a position to resume supplies of Sulphuric Acid to other users, because its production and availability continue to be insufficient for their own production. However, as the earlier consumers of FACT's have arranged alternative sources of supply of acid, no remedial measures are called for.

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme in Orissa

5681. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has sent any proposal under the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme for approval for the Year 1991-92; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) The State Government of Orissa has sent revised estimates involving an additional expenditure of Rs. 4.24 crores for various schemes in mini mission project areas of Phulbani, five blocks of Ganjam, Koraput and Mayurbhanj districts. A proposal for central assistance for coverage or 1000 Scheduled Cast/Scheduled Tribe habitations with safe drinking water facilities has also been received. No proposal has been received for technical clearance under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme.

(b) The schemes are under scrutiny.

Selection of Serials by Doordarshan

5682. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has invited proposals for serials under New Sponsorship programme under some categories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the serials selected?